

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the rejection based on obviousness-type double patenting is respectfully requested in view of the Terminal Disclaimer submitted herewith.

Claim 1 has been amended to delete the word "balance" in paragraph (e), to avoid any inadvertent limitation of the scope of the Claim, which is clearly inconsistent with the open-ended term "comprising" on line 3 of the Claim.

Claims 1-11 are rejected under the doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting over Claims 1-9 of U.S. Patent 6,362,158 for the reasons of record in the previous Office Action.

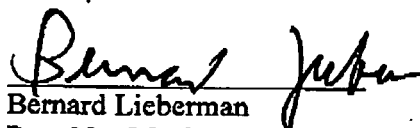
Applicants submit herewith an appropriate Terminal Disclaimer to overcome the aforementioned double patenting rejection.

The Examiner has withdrawn the prior rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103 based on applicants arguments.

Accordingly, it is submitted that the present Claims are in compliance with 35 U.S.C. 103 and 35 U.S.C. 112 and are in condition for allowance. An action indicating the allowance of the Claims is therefore courteously solicited.

Any fee due with this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 03-2455. Any overpayment may be credited to Deposit Account No. 03-2455.

Respectfully submitted,


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